

# THE POLITICAL HOROSCOPE

The political situation offers nothing new this week, save the lining up of New York State for Roosevelt's nomination in 1904, and the stand of the Iowa Republican convention for a modification of the tariff. It is now conceded by the wise-acres in politics that the President will be chosen without serious opposition, and every circumstance points to his triumphant election.

The tariff declaration in Iowa, however, is significant—coming from the State that gives us two members of the Cabinet, the Speaker of the House and chairman of the Senate Committee on Appropriations. It means that the present trust-breeding tariff wall must be lowered, that the people are restless under the growing arrogance of commercial combines, and are determined to strike a more equitable balance between the munificent rewards of capital and the meager earnings of labor. The fierce strikes and bread riots indicate that the masses are in no humor to be trifled with, and unless some remedy is proposed whereby the poor man's dinner pail can be reasonably well-filled, a revolt may be looked for. Disaster may be averted by a little tariff pruning here and there, so conducted that the burden of taxation will fall upon those most able to bear it, and who enjoy the bulk of the fruits of protective import rates. The consumer pays the tax, as all know, and the wage-earner's pittance is exhausted by the prices arbitrarily fixed by trusts to increase the profits of the monopoly that conditions permit them to build up and sustain. The remedy should be suggested and consummated by the Republicans. We want no wholesale tariff legislation, to unsettle the business interests of the country, and bring on a repetition of the slump of 1893. The tariff is an elastic proposition, and can be intelligently revised to suit changed and changing conditions, without sacrificing a jot or tittle of the principle of protection to infant industries. Competition is healthful for institutions that are strong enough to stand alone, and the thoughtful party managers realize what a splendid coup it would be to knock the bottom out of the Democracy's campaign by agreeing to make certain reductions at once, and pleading merely that such revision and reduction should be made by the friends of the protective system—not by those who would annihilate it altogether.

Mr. Roosevelt sees the danger, and he is taking steps to offset every menace to Republican supremacy. While his coming tour is in no sense political, his speeches will be eloquent presentations of his attitude upon the tariff, reciprocity, trusts, Philippine question, and labor. In effect, he will bear the brunt of the campaign, and by creating a popular wave of enthusiasm by his presence and frank utterances, he will save many doubtful districts to the party. We approve of his policy of taking the people into his confidence, and he is wise in putting his cabinet into the field to give expert testimony concerning the work of their departments, particularly as to foreign affairs, the army and the plans of the attorney-general. Mr. Roosevelt is thoroughly honest, and has the courage to voice his convictions offend whom they may. His Arlington speech referring to lynching has endeared him to the colored people, and they have implicit confidence in his sincerity. Congress has "flunked" in all Negro measures lately, but the hope is high that if Mr. Roosevelt is strengthened in that body by the election of the right kind of men, the next few years will show a decided improvement in our status

as citizens. The Negro voters in the North have their eyes open and their knives whetted for certain members who neglected to take care of the interests of the race, but they are a unit for the strenuous presiding genius at the White House. The campaign will open in September, and there will be about six weeks of unremitting effort by Messrs. Babcock, Overstreet and their associates on the Congressional committee. Literature is a strong educating influence, and not only should speeches and pamphlets be circulated, but considerable attention should be paid to the systematic distribution of class newspapers. If the party keeps its ear close to the people, and rings true on economic and humane principles the elections are pretty sure to be registered the right way.

Admiral Dewey says that in enlisting the aid of Aguinaldo and the Filipinos he had in mind the valuable assistance rendered the federal forces by the Negroes in the Civil war. He availed himself of the Filipinos aid, whipped the Spaniards, and now he considers their revolt against American arms and desire for independence to be the act of ingrates. The Washington Chronicle (white) regards Dewey as inconsistent and makes the following comment:

"Admiral Dewey was unfortunate in his introduction of the Negro problem, as above set forth, to illustrate his views of the Philippine situation. To be consistent and carry the idea to its logical conclusion, the Filipinos must be given the progressive advancement that we accorded the Negro who was our friend in the civil war. The Negro got both freedom and independence—aye, more! He is a sovereign citizen of the Republic, equal as a citizen, to Admiral Dewey, himself!"

A report comes that when District Attorney John G. Capers, of South Carolina, nominated Negro physicians as the colored member of each of several pension examining boards, the white physicians protested and declined to serve with Negro associates. Whereupon, the report further states, Mr. Capers said the Negroes would be recognized or there would be no pension examining boards. At last accounts, the matter was unsettled, and pension business was at a standstill. Mr. Capers may get himself liked by his Negro constituents, if the story is true. He is a gold democrat.

There is talk of putting up a Negro candidate for Congress in the Fifth and Sixth Maryland districts, to voice the dissatisfaction of the race with the indifferent attitude of Representatives Mudd and Pearre. The movement will end in talk, because the Negroes in the districts mentioned have no leaders capable of engineering so stupendous a task as agreeing upon a candidate, getting his name on the official ballot and rallying the masses to his support.

It is said that Mr. William M. Lewis, the keen-witted assistant editor of The Indianapolis Freeman, is booked for something good at the hands of the National administration. He would faithfully and creditably represent the Hoosier State wherever he might be placed. The Freeman deserves the best that Senators Beveridge and Fairbanks can "rake off" for Indiana's Negro contingent.

The justices of the peace have signed a statement that they will accept their monthly instalment at the \$2,000 rate, but maintain that they are entitled to the \$3,000 provided under the original code, and a protest will be filed on each pay day. At the proper time, the courts will be appealed to for a decision on the salary question,

## POLITICAL POINTERS.

A liberal Democrat is preferable to a lily-white Republican.

The American consul-general to Cuba has very little discretion to Bragg of.

The Negro politician is notoriously given to thundering solely in the index.

McLaurin's timely declination has saved us and him a great deal of annoyance.

Politics is a science, an art and a business—but you have to know the game to win at it.

What will the Maryland Negroes do to Senator McComas and Representative Schirm after all their talk? Nit!

Ex-Deputy Collector George Washington Murray doubtless realizes that Koesterling is quite a disastrous pastime.

Recorder Dancy, by going slowly, will make no mistakes in his appointments. He will "take care" of the right people.

E. H. Morris has declined the legislative nomination tendered him by the Republicans of the first Senatorial district of Chicago.

Now that the Negro has been reduced to a minimum in the census office, the "efficiency" column in the reports show up "blank."

Be it said to the credit of the Negro that not one of that race who sat in the House of Congress was ever guilty of disorderly conduct.

The disappearance from public life of ex-Recorder James C. Matthews seems to be every bit as complete as that of Harry Tracey.

William Jennings Bryan is not a candidate for a third nomination—but if asked he can not honorably say nay. Is there another run in Bryan?

Bruce Grit tells a plain, old-fashioned and unvarnished truth when he says that "raw sugar has more protection than the life of an American Negro."

Rumor has it that Senator Hanna is to give away to Gov. W. Murray Crane, of Massachusetts, as chairman of the Republican National Committee.

They say Director Merriam is still sore at the colored people because they did not take to his gubernatorial ambitions in Minnesota some years ago.

The appointment of Elmer Woods, a lily-white Republican, as naval officer at New Orleans, is a bitter pill to the hard-working Negro voters of Louisiana.

State organizations of Negroes can work wonders in the arena of politics, if the reins can be controlled by men who place race before self, and patriotism above self.

The Baltimore Lancet calls attention to the fact that no Negro in Maryland ever held a Presidential appointment, and says that the Negroes themselves are to blame for it.

The spirit of fraternity with which the Filipinos have met the Negro in civil and military life ought to be a pointer to those who wish peace and prosperity to exist in our Eastern possessions.

It is the independent vote that decides national elections. It is the independent vote that is courted when platforms are written and nominations are made. Why is not the Negro vote courted?

In times of war it is a good piece of strategy to capture the men and guns of the opposition. Why shouldn't President Roosevelt bring Mr. Littlefield into camp and enlist him, if possible, on the Lord's side?

If this were 1904, the Republican ticket would be Roosevelt and Fairbanks. The Democratic nominees would be Hill and Harrison, with Thomas Taggart of Indiana, as chairman of the National Committee.

Register Judson W. Lyons, with his accustomed political sagacity, has reached the conclusion that President Roosevelt will have no material opposition for renomination. He will do considerable campaigning in the west this fall in the congressional contest,

## AMUSEMENTS.

# Watson's Park.

Washington's Great Pleasure Resort, located on Glen Echo Railroad, Md., now open for the season, and it is hoped that every person will pay one visit to the Park this season as there has been many improvements made for your enjoyment. All churches, social clubs and associations are invited to spend their outing this summer at Watson's Park. Special car can be chartered Direct for the Park and ordered back when wanted. Cars for every day service. Take Chevy Chase for the Park. Those driving take Conduit to Turners and turn to the right. For further information apply to A. D. WATSON, 2025 L Street, N. W.

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